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FM AMCONSUL LAGOS  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8285  
RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA PRIORITY 8125  
INFO RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH AFB UK  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC  
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 001427

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DOE FOR GPERSON, CGAY  
TREASURY FOR ASEVERENS, SRENENDER, DFIELDS  
COMMERCE FOR KBURRESS  
STATE PASS USTR FOR ASST USTR SLISER  
STATE PASS TRANSPORTATION FOR MARAD  
STATE PASS OPIC FOR ZHAN AND MSTUCKART  
STATE PASS TDA FOR NCABOT  
STATE PASS EXIM FOR JRICHTER  
STATE PASS USAID FOR GWEYNAND AND SLAWAETZ

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/15/2016  
TAGS: [EPET](#) [ENERG](#) [ASEC](#) [PTER](#) [NI](#)  
SUBJECT: ALL BUT THREE SHELL NIGERIAN EMPLOYEES RELEASED;  
AGIP EXPATRIATES STILL HELD

REF: A. LAGOS 1416

[1](#)B. LAGOS 1408

Classified By: Consul General Brian Browne for Reasons 1.4 (B,D)

All But Three Shell Employees Released  
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[1](#)1. (C) Gunmen attacked a Shell flowstation on the Nun River in Bayelsa State on December 14. The attackers took control of the flowstation, holding 40 Nigerian military personnel and Nigerian employees of Shell hostage throughout the evening of December 14; no American citizens or other expatriates were involved in the incident, according to Olav Lijosne, Regional External Affairs Manager for Shell. By the morning of December 15, all but three of the forty hostages had been released; the identities and nationalities of the three remaining hostages are not known, Lijosne said. The Bayelsa government is engaged in negotiations to secure the release of the remaining hostages.

Four Agip Expatriates Still Held  
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[1](#)2. (C) Four expatriate employees of Agip, three Italian and one Lebanese worker, taken on December 7 remain in captivity, according to Fidelis Anju, Agip's General Manager for Public Affairs. The hostages have been split into groups of two. An official of the Bayelsa State Government who is engaged in negotiations with the hostage-takers saw one group. The hostages are being moved frequently between Rivers, Bayelsa and Delta States, Anju said. The Bayelsa Government officials engaged in the negotiations know who the hostage-takers are, Anju said. The hostage-takers have not made specific demands to Agip, Anju said.

